

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS COMMISSION

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FRANKFORT, KY – Today, the Executive Branch Ethics Commission voted to extend the Executive Agency Lobbyist filing period until August 31, 2020.

On March 6, 2020, Governor Andy Beshear, issued Executive Order 2020-215, calling a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. On March 18, 2020, Governor Beshear issued guidelines restricting state employee work schedules and encouraging telecommuting. The impacts of the global pandemic have been far reaching. With the looming Executive Agency Lobbyist filing and registration update period beginning on July 1, the pandemic could impact the ability of Executive Agency Lobbyists, Employers of those lobbyists, and their Real Parties in Interest to timely file.

In response to the concerns raised by the COVID-19 virus, and pursuant to its authority under KRS 11A.990(5), the Executive Branch Ethics Commission voted during its regular meeting on May 18, 2020, to extend the filing period for all Executive Agency Lobbyists, Employers of lobbyists, and Real Parties in Interest to file the required updated registration filing forms and pay the \$500 annual registration fee. Pursuant to KRS 11A.211, the annual filing period runs from July 1 through July 31. The Commission voted to expand the upcoming filing period from July 1, 2020, through August 31, 2020. The Commission determined to extend this filing period to ensure the compliance and cooperation of all of those involved with the executive branch lobbying process.